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STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA) – WEST

CHAGHCHARAN (FEROZ KOH)
DISTRICT PROFILE

NOVEMBER 2014

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STABILITY IN KEY AREAS (SIKA) – WEST

CHAGHCHARAN (FEROZ KOH) DISTRICT PROFILE

Submitted to:

USAID Afghanistan

Prepared by:

AECOM International Development

DISCLAIMER:

The authors' views expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

INTRODUCTION

Stabilization in Key Areas (SIKA-West) is a United States Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded program intended to improve stability and pave the way for transition in the western provinces of Herat, Farah, Badghis, and Ghor. SIKA-West works in partnership with the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) to assist selected district governments to improve their capacity to deliver basic services and better respond to sources of instability as identified by residents.

The District Profiles provide background information to assist SIKA-West and MRRD staff, as well as district entities (DEs), to better understand a specific district. The District Profiles build a picture of the daily life in district communities, including access to basic services such as healthcare, roads, and education. They provide an overview of tribes, allegiances, and the local security situation to improve the identification and resolution of sources of instability at the district level.

A template for all District Profiles was developed by SIKA-West to standardize both data collection and the format of the information ultimately provided.

Staff from the Provincial Support Teams (PSTs) were tasked with collecting information. Relevant local entities including the district governor's office, the Directorate of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (DRRD), other government departments, United Nations (UN) officials, and local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) were interviewed for information related to government structure and services, road networks, agricultural and industrial production, and development projects.

Research was also undertaken using reliable online sources and hard copy reports including Provincial Development Plans, especially when drafting sections on geography and population composition. Written sources have been cited where applicable. The vast majority of the information relating to tribes, ethnic composition, political parties, key leaders, and security issues was gathered from interviews with community members, influential tribal leaders, and members of District Development Assemblies (DDAs).

The main challenges to developing District Profiles were insufficient, incomplete, or contradictory information gathered at the district level; lack of trustworthy resource material; unreliable demographic data; lack of proper maps, and; a deteriorating security situation in some districts that hampered information collection. These difficulties were mostly overcome through interviews with local elders, cross-checking information with government directorates, new Measuring Impacts of Stabilization Intervention (MISTI) district maps, and improved collection methods. Place names were taken from the MISTI maps, where available.

The authors would like to thank the following individuals for their time. They graciously contributed insight and information across numerous meetings and interviews.

List of interviewees:

Name	Responsibility
1. Abdul Ali Rasouli	Deputy Director of Public Health
2. Joma Khan	Acting Director, Directorate of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock (DAIL)
3. Bahuddin Wafaey	Head of Economy Department
4. Khair Mohammad Naebi	Staff, Directorate of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (DRRD)
5. Mullah Besmellah	Head of Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) DDA
6. Shahla Khatibi	Staff, Directorate of Women Affairs (DoWA)
7. Murtaza	Administrative Manager of Police HQ
8. Raz Mohammad	Education Department
9. Wakili	Irrigation Manager, DAIL
10. Fazl Ahmad Khan	Taimani Tribal Elder
11. Ostad Hazrat Gul	Taimani Tribal Elder
12. Abdul Hay Khatibi	Provincial Governor's Spokesperson

ACRONYM LIST:

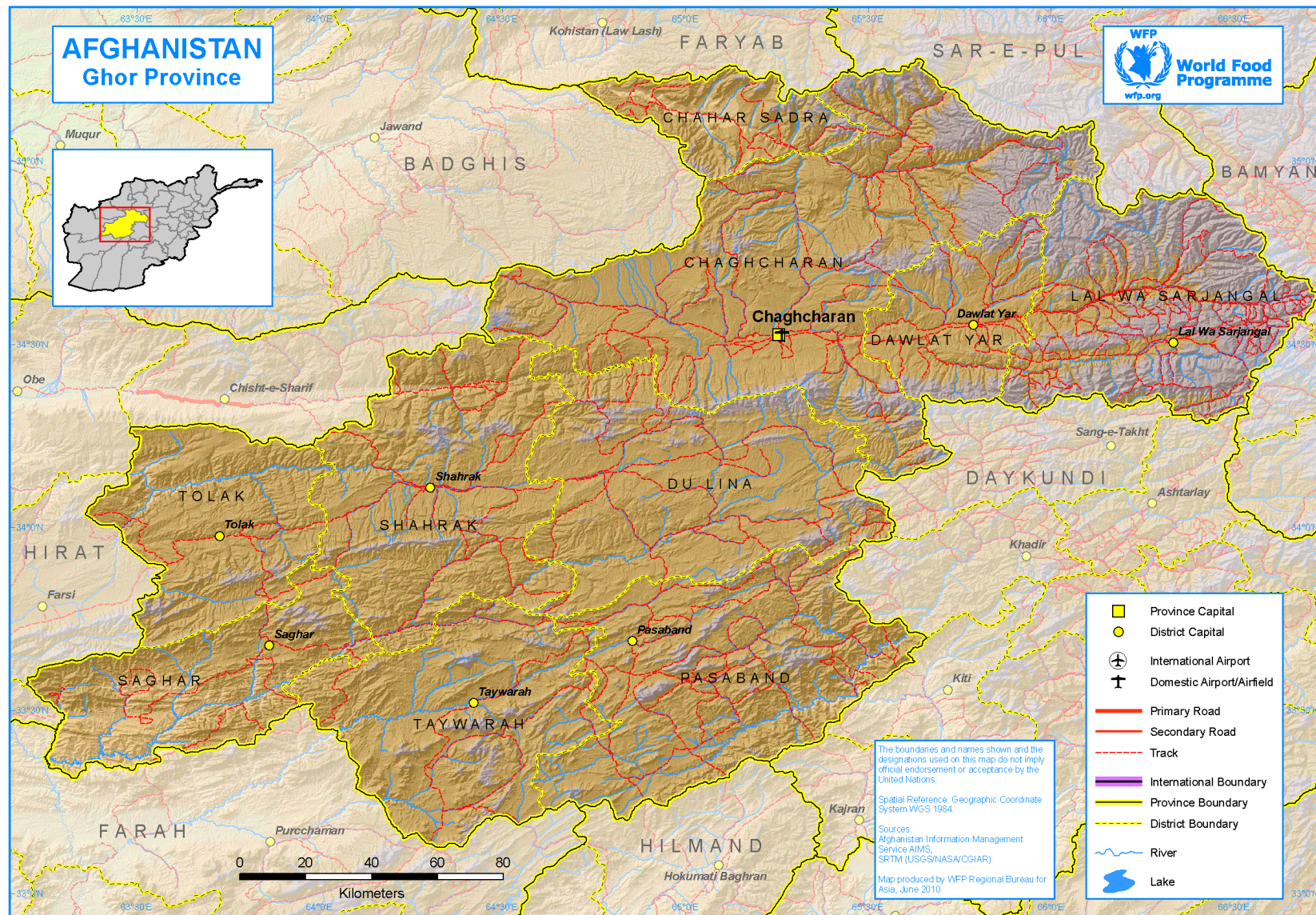
ADS	Automated Directive System
AECID	Spanish Agency for International Development
AECOM	Architecture Engineering Construction Operation Management
AGE	Anti-Government Elements
ALP	Afghan Local Police
AMP	Afghan Mellat Party
ANSF	Afghanistan National Security Forces
AREDP	Afghan Rural Enterprise and Development Program
ASCOR	Afghan Center for Socio-Economic and Social Research
ASOP	Afghanistan Social Outreach Program
AWCC	Afghan Wireless Communication Company
CADG	Central Asia Development Group
CDC	Community Development Council
COAR	Coordination of Afghan Relief
COP	Chief of Party
CTG	Community Transformation Grants
DACAAR	Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees
DAIL	Directorate of Agriculture, Irrigation And Livestock
DCA	Dutch Committee for Afghanistan–Veterinary Programmes
DCC	District Community Council
DCN	Department of Counter Narcotics
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
DDA	District Development Assembly
DDP	District Development Plan
DE	District Entities
DG	District Governor
DGO	District Governor’s Office
DPP	District Project Portfolio
DQA	Data Quality Assessment
DRRD	Directorate of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
DSM	District Stability Matrix
FAF	Foreign Assistance Framework
GIRoA	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
ICMA	International City/County Management Association
IDEA-NEW/DAI	Incentives Driving Economic Alternatives for the North, East, and West / DAI
IDLG	Independent Directorate of Local Governance
IED	Improvised Explosive Device

IR	Intermediate Result
IRD	International Relief and Development
ISAF	International Security Assistance Force
LGCD	Local Governance and Community Development
MIS	Management Information System
MISTI	Measuring Impacts of Stabilization Intervention
MOVE	Mobility Opportunities Via Education/Experience
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
MSF-H	Medicines SANS Frontiers–HOLLAND
MTN	Multi Telecommunication Network
NABDP	National Area-Based Development Program
NDS	National Directorate of Security
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NPO/RRAA	Norwegian Project Office / Rural Rehabilitation Association for Afghanistan
NRAP/MRRD	National Rural Access Program / Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
NSP	National Solidarity Program
OSC	Overseas Strategic Consulting, Ltd.
PDC	Provincial Development Council
PG	Provincial Governor
PIRS	Performance Indicator Reference Sheet
PMP	Performance Management Plan
PMU	Provincial Management Unit
PRRD	Provincial Rural Rehabilitation Department
PRT	Provincial Reconstruction Team
SAM	Stabilization Analyses Mechanism
SAT	Stability Analysis Tool
SIKA-West	Stability in Key Areas – West
SO	Strategic Objective
SOI	Source of Instability
SPC	Service Provider Catalogue
STAB–U	Stability Unit
SWDC	Shindand Women’s Development Council
SWG	Stability Working Group
SWSF	Shindand Women’s Social Foundation
TB	Tuberculosis
TCAPF	Tactical Conflict Assessment Planning Framework
TI	Technologists Inc.
UN	United Nations

UNICEF	United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WFP	World Food Program
WV	World Vision

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	1
Geography and Demography	2
Ethnic & Tribal Groups	3
Overview	3
Tribes	3
The Taimani	3
Allahyari Tribe.....	3
Khodayar.....	4
Sultanyar:.....	4
Mehriha.....	4
Razaha.....	4
Yarfoladiha	4
Morghabiha.....	5
The Economy	5
Agriculture.....	5
Services	6
Education	6
Health.....	7
Water and Sanitation.....	8
Infrastructure.....	8
Telecommunications.....	9
Local Governance	9
Office of the Provincial Governor	9
Parliamentary Members	10
Provincial Council	10
Wolesi Jirga	10
Meshrano Jirga (Senate)	10
Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)	10
District Development Assembly (DDA).....	10
Community Development Councils (CDCs)	11
Politics	11
Other Key Actors	11
Primary Political Parties	12
Gender.....	12
Development Activities	13
Media.....	14
Security	14
Appendix A: DDA Lists.....	16
Appendix B: Maps	17



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Geography: Chaghcharan, also known as Feroz Koh, is a district in northern Ghor Province which also serves as the provincial capital. Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) is one of the ten districts of Ghor Province. It is located on the southern side of the Hari River, borders Herat via a 380-kilometer-long highway to the west, and is about the same distance (380 km) from Kabul to the east. Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) internally shares borders with Dawlatyar District in the east, Shahrak and Dolaina Districts in the west, and Charsada District in the north. To the south, it shares its border with Khadir District of Diakondi Province.

Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District has an area of 7,679 km², consists of 800 villages, and has an approximate population of 133,900.¹ Most of the district is considered rural.

Climate: Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District has severe winters with heavy snowfall, which renders most areas inaccessible. The winter season begins in October and continues through June every year. The heavy winters also block most of the roads from villages to the district center. It is a drought affected area.

Demography: Demographically, Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) does not have a great diversity of ethnic groups. Aimak is the major ethnic group, accounting for 97% of the district population. Small numbers of other ethnic groups also live in the district, each with their own sub-tribes and branches. Pashtuns make up one percent and Hazara make up two percent of the population.²

Politics: The Hezb-e-Jamiat-e- Islami Party, the Hezb-e Wahdat (Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan) Party, the Islamic Unity Party of the People of Afghanistan (Hezb-e Wahdat-e Islami-ye Mardum-e Afghanistan), and the Hezb-e-Islami Party all have members located in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District.

The Economy: Agriculture, livestock, and production of handicrafts (rugs, carpets, and crochet work) are the main sources of income in the district. There are no factories or processing facilities in the district. In the past, Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) was the country's main center for livestock trade. Traders and businessmen used to come to Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) from all over Afghanistan in June and July of each year to buy domestic animals such as sheep, goats, and cows. However, the civil war that erupted after the withdrawal of the Soviet Union, coupled with recurring drought conditions, have resulted in a severe loss of livestock. Residents are experienced in raising livestock and could restore this market if they received economic support from the government.

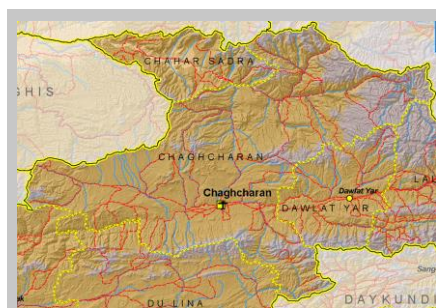


Figure 1:
Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh)
District Location in Ghor
Province

QUICK FACTS

Demographics

Land Area

7,679 km²

Population

Total: 133,900

Gender Ratio

- Male: 50.7%
- Female: 49.3%
- Male: 67,900
- Female: 66,000

Literacy

- Male: 30%
- Female: 15%

¹ Public Directorate of Ethnic and Tribal Affairs

² Public Directorate of Ethnic and Tribal Affairs

Security: The overall security situation in the district is stable. Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) rarely witnesses suicide attacks. The tensions between the tribes are the main destabilizing factors in the district. Inhabitants in the Dawlatyar area describe the tensions and ongoing disputes between the Zai Reza and Mehri, Zai Reza and Taimani, and Sultanyar and Murghabi tribes as potentially destabilizing factors. Anti-government elements (AGEs) and the Taliban are active in more remote villages where the government has no access to citizens; therefore, these areas are subsequently more vulnerable to anti-government attacks. About 24 AGE groups are active inside Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh). The Taliban announced a shadow government in the district two years ago. Mullah Ahmad Shah is the shadow Deputy Governor and Mullah Abdul Hadi is the shadow Security Commander.

The Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) climate is not suitable for poppy cultivation. Farmers who have tried to cultivate poppy have been unable to obtain a good harvest in most areas. Poppy is cultivated on smaller plots of land in the Morghab, Ahangaran, and Shovich areas of the district. In these areas, farmers cannot harvest any other crop due to cold weather and a lack of water for irrigation.

GEOGRAPHY AND DEMOGRAPHY

With an area of 7,679 km², Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) is a mountainous district located in the northern part of the province. Located south of the Hari Rod River, Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) shares borders with Badghis, Diakondi, Herat, and Sare Pol provinces. It borders Dawlatyar District to the east, Shahrak and Dolaina districts to the west, and Charsada District to the north.

Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) is divided into 800 villages and has a total population of 133,900. Around 95% of the population of Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) lives in rural areas while 5% lives in the urban areas. Data from the Ghor Statistic and Population Center shows that 50.7 percent of the population is male and 49.3 percent is female approximately 67,900 males and 66,000 females respectively.

An estimated 99% of the population in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District speaks Dari, while 1% of the population speaks Pashto. All the people in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District are Muslim, most of whom are Sunni.

The *Kuchi* typically only reside in the Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District of Ghor Province during the summer.³ For the *Kuchi* of Afghanistan, Ghor Province is the third most important location, after Kabul and Logar. The province is a desirable location for the *Kuchis* due to its unused pasturage and cool weather in the summers. Each summer, 2,400 nomadic *Kuchis* come to Ghor province from Farah, Helmand, Herat, and Laghman to graze their livestock.



Figure 2:
Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District Ethnic Groups

QUICK FACTS

Composition of Population

Ethnic Groups:

- Aimak: 97%
- Hazara: 2%
- Pashtun: 1%

Religious Groups:

Sunni: 99%

Tribal Groups:

- Taimani
- Allahyari
- Khodayar
- Sultanyar
- Mehriha
- Rezaha
- Yarfoladiha
- Morghabiha

³ Kuchis are referred to as nomads traveling from one area to another to find pasture for their animals.

ETHNIC & TRIBAL GROUPS

OVERVIEW

There are three different ethnic groups in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District:

Aimaks: Aimaks are the majority ethnic group in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) and comprise 97% of the district population. The Aimaks of Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) are most closely related to the Hazara, and to some degree to the Tajiks. However, they are Sunni Muslims, in contrast to the Hazara, who are predominantly Shias. The Aimaks are a Persian-speaking tribe. The Aimak tribe was originally known as Chahar or “the four” Aimaks, because there were four principal tribes: the Taimani (the predominant group in Ghor), the Firozkoh, the Temuri, and the Jamshidi.

It should be noted that it is difficult to count the population of Aimaks. Centuries of oppression of the Hazara people in Afghanistan have led to some Aimak Hazara’s being classified by the state as Tajik, or Persian instead of as Aimaks. Aimak tribal groups in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) include Taimani, Allahyar, Khodayar, Sultanyar, Mehriha, Rezaha, Yarfoladiha, and Morghabiha. They tend to live in settled communities as opposed to leading a nomadic lifestyle.

Hazara: In present day Afghanistan, the Hazara are divided geographically into two main groups: the Hazarajat Hazara, and those who live outside the Hazarajat. The Hazarajat is centered around the Bamyan Province in the Hindu Kush Mountains of central Afghanistan, and includes areas of Ghor, Uruzgan, Wardak, and Ghazni provinces. The Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) Hazara people are those who live outside of Hazarajat area. Hazara make up two percent of the district population. The majority of Hazaras live in the Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) district center.

Pashtuns: Pashtun tribes are a minority in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) and Ghor Province. Pashtun tribes that do live in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) primarily reside in the eastern part of the district in an area called Wardakha.

TRIBES

THE TAIMANI

The Taimani are one of the major branches of the Aimak Tribe, and their people tend to reside in the south and west of the district. Some of the elders of the Taimani in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) include:

- Fazl Ahmad, the leader of the Taimani Tribe and is considered to be the most influential Taimani ethnic figure in the district.
- Mofti Abdul Shokor, a tribal elder who is highly respected among locals.
- Mola Jalal, one of the elders of the Taimani Tribe.

ALLAHYARI TRIBE

Allahyar is another sub-tribes of the Aimaq Tajik. Allahyaris mainly live in the Allah Yar Village of Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh). Some of the elders of this tribe include:

- Mawlawi Ahmad Shah, an elder of the Allahyari Tribe and a social figure who has great influence among locals.
- Commander Qayum, the leader of the Allahyari tribe and a prominent tribal figure.
- Mawlawi Ahmad, a tribal elder who is highly revered by locals.

KHODAYAR

The Khodayar tribe is a sub-tribe of Char Aimaq. Members of this tribe generally live in the villages surrounding the district center. Some of the elders of this tribe include:

- Haji Kamaluddin Mowdodi, a tribal elder who is highly revered by locals.
- Haji Mohammad Esmaeil, a prominent tribal figure.
- Khodayar Waqef, a tribal elder.
- Haji Mohammad Daryabaz, an elder of Khodayar Tribe and a social figure with great influence.
- Abdul Hamid, a tribal elder who is highly revered by locals.
- Mohammad Osman, another influential member of the tribe.

SULTANYAR:

Sultanyar is a sub-tribe of the Aimaq Tajiks. This minority group mostly lives around the center of the district. They largely support the government authorities in the hope of maintaining security. The members of this tribe mainly work in government offices, and they do not allow AGEs to enter their areas. Some of the elders of this tribe include:

- Fazlulhaq Najat, a tribal elder who is highly revered by locals.
- Ahmad Shah Majidi, another influential member of the tribe.
- Haji Abdul Ghafoor, a tribal elder.
- Moahmmad Saleh, a tribal elder.

MEHRIHA

The Mehriha is a sub-tribe of Aimaq Tajiks that live in the western part of Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District. Some of the elders of this tribe include:

- Amanullah Bik, a tribal elder and one of the most influential people in the district.
- Mohammad Gul, a tribal elder.

RAZAHA

Razaha is a sub-tribe of the Aimaq Tajiks and live in the western of part of Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District. Some of the elders of this tribe include:

- Keramuddin Razazada, a tribal elder.
- Abdul Ghafar, a tribal elder.
- Mohammad Younis, a tribal elder and one of the most influential individuals in the district.

YARFOLADIHA

The Yarfoladiha live in the northern and western areas of Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) and are a sub-tribe of the Aimaq Tajiks. Some of the elders of this tribe include:

- Haji Ahmad Khan
- Fazl Ahmad Khan
- Abdul Qayum
- Mullah Besmellah

MORGHABIHA

The Morghabiha are located in northern part of Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District, and are a sub-tribe of the Aimaq Tajik. The efforts to get this group to support the government have been difficult, as they are largely supported by Taliban. Some of the elders of this tribe include:

- Haji Ahmad Khan
- Mohammad Hossain
- Mohammad Sakhi
- Bahauddin

THE ECONOMY

Agriculture, livestock, and handicrafts such as rugs and carpets are the main sources of income for people in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District. There is no officially registered unemployment rate for this district, but many people in the district complain about unemployment as well as the high number of jobless young people. A majority of the population makes a living by selling livestock products such as butter, animal oil, and dried yogurt, as well as agricultural products including wheat, barley, maize, corn, lentils, green cumin, and peas.

Around 80% of the population is involved in both agriculture and animal husbandry. Fifty percent of the local population is solely involved in agriculture, while another 30% is only involved in the raising of livestock. Five percent of the population holds government positions and five percent of people are involved in commerce. The other ten percent of the population is involved in daily labor and daily business in the district center and in the provincial capital.⁴

Since 2005, drought in the district has caused many people to be internally displaced. During periods of drought, communities have been forced to sell much of their livestock for slaughter, resulting in the low levels of livestock currently present in the district. There are no factories in the district, so locally-produced goods are limited to handicrafts.

QUICK FACTS

Agriculture

Primary Crops:

- Wheat
- Barley
- Maize
- Corn
- Lentils
- Green Cumin
- Peas

Primary Livestock:

- Cows
- Sheep
- Goats
- Horses
- Donkeys

QUICK FACTS

Economy

Sources of Income:

- Agriculture
- Livestock
- Handicrafts

However, due to a lack of access to proper markets, the income from handicrafts is nominal and does little to improve the local economy. Many district traders have to take their goods to Herat by way of the Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) -Herat Highway. This highway is of great importance, not only for bringing local goods to and from the provinces, but also for importing necessary materials and products from other countries.

AGRICULTURE

Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District has 1,521 hectares of irrigated land and 38,486 hectares of rain-fed land. Agricultural areas make up 80% of the land in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District. The rest of the district is not suitable for cultivation because it is either arid or mountainous.⁵

Agricultural products of Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District include wheat, barley, corn, green cumin, lentils, and peas. Other produce grown in gardens and on farms includes walnuts, apples, apricots, peaches, pears, and

⁴ Ghor Directorate of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock

⁵ Ghor Directorate of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock

blackberries. Livestock in the district include cattle, sheep, goats, donkeys, and horses, as well as poultry like chickens and turkeys.

Local products that come from livestock include milk, yogurt, butter, dried yogurt, and dogh.⁶ Dairy products are not exported from Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) to other parts of the province because there are no processing and packaging facilities in the district.

There is little tangible difference between the products that come from different areas of the district. In remote villages people also work in animal husbandry. Other livestock products include animal skins, sheep's wool, and goat's wool. Hand-made products in the district include rugs, hand-made carpets, and small decorative carpets.

Poppy cultivation has not been completely eliminated in the district, and data from the District Department of Agriculture shows that narcotics like opium are produced every year in the villages of Morghab, Showich, and Ahangaran. These villages are under the control of insurgents. In Ghorqand and Allahyar villages, where the government has control, farmers cultivate poppy due to a lack of viable alternative options. Although poppy growing requires limited irrigation, farmers still have difficulty producing a good harvest due to the cold weather.

A majority of district residents are farmers. Farmers still use traditional agricultural practices, meaning that they still plow their agricultural lands with cows, donkeys, and horses instead of machinery and tractors. They practice the same method in hot and cold weather, causing health problems for farmers and livestock alike. These traditional methods also limit crop yields and are highly time-consuming.

There are several key challenges to agricultural production in the district. Due to seasonal floods, canals, streams, karizes⁷, and other irrigation systems can become filled with dirt and mud, leading to a decrease in irrigation water. In addition, there are few professional agriculturalists or veterinarians, making it difficult to deal with diseases and pests. The seasonal rainwater could be better utilized for irrigation and for drinking water, but a majority of rainwater flows to the Morghab River, which ultimately flows to Turkmenistan.

SERVICES

EDUCATION

The education rate in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) is 45%, which is higher than other districts in Ghor Province. There are a total of 704 schools in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District that provide educational services to district residents. Residents claim that most of these schools do not function for lengthy periods of time due to the presence of anti-government elements and illegal armed groups. The 704 schools in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh)

Districts are broken down as follows:

- 432 primary schools that provide educational services for 14,400 male

⁶ Fermented milk beverage

⁷ A Kariz is a series of well-like vertical shafts, connected by gently sloping tunnels. A Kariz creates a reliable supply of water for human settlements and irrigation in hot areas.

QUICK FACTS

Education

- Schools: 699
- Secondary Schools: 156
- Primary Schools: 432
- High Schools: 110
- Agricultural Schools: 1

Teachers:

- Total: 239
- Male: 231
- Female: 8

Madrasa:

Madrasa: 5

Literacy:

- Male: 30%
- Female: 15%

students and 9,108 female students

- 80 secondary schools serving 3,632 male students
- 76 secondary female schools serving 1,686 female students
- 75 male high schools serving 837 students
- 35 female high schools with a total capacity of 399 students
- 1 agricultural school with a total capacity of 200 students
- 5 religious schools with a total capacity of 2,000 students

All the above-mentioned schools are state schools, including the religious schools, and are located in the district center, as well as Ghorqand, Sparman-e Morghab, and Barakhana villages. All schools were founded by the Ministry of Education of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

In total, there are 45 teachers working for the District Department of Education, 27 of whom are male and 18 of whom are female. According to data from the District Department of Education, all of these teachers are currently employed and teach at the schools.⁸

There are 76 registered literacy-training centers run by the Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District Education Department. They have the capacity to provide lessons to a total of 1,538 students, including 517 male and 1,021 Female students.⁹

A lack of buildings for schools, dearth of professional teachers and textbooks, and absence of labs, along with high levels of insecurity, are the major challenges faced by the Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District Education Department.

The Ghor Department of Education; with the cooperation of UNICEF, WFP, World Vision, and PRT; has built some schools, as well as distributed food and stationary to students throughout the district.¹⁰

QUICK FACTS

Health

- Hospitals: 1
- CHCs: 5
- BHCs: 4

Services:

- First aid
- Vaccination
- Primary treatment

Water:

- Access to safe water: 10% of population

Girls can go to schools in the district center and some other villages close to the district center; however, female access to schools is not possible in Showich, Bare Khana, Ghorqand, Morghab, Ghalmin, and Zartalai villages due to the presence of anti-government elements and other security concerns.

HEALTH

There is one hospital in the Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District center. This hospital provides health services to 134,442 provincial residents. The Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) hospital has the capacity to provide health services to 100 outpatientsts at once. The hospital includes an emergency ward, TB Ward, Vaccination Ward, and Obstetric Unit.

There is one Comprehensive Health Center (CHC) in the Showich village of Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) district. There are also six Basic Health Centers (BHCs) in the district center and villages of Bara Khana, Ghorqand, Ghalmin, Shoraba and Lafra.¹¹

⁸ Mr. Ghulam Rabani Hadafmand Head of Literacy Section of Education department of Ghor Province

⁹ Mr. Ghulam Rabani Hadafmand Head of Literacy Section of Education department of Ghor Province

¹⁰ Mr. Ghulam Rabani Hadafmand Head of Literacy Section of Education department of Ghor Province

¹¹ Mr. Ghulam Nabi Yaganah, Head of Ghor Public Health Department

These clinics are operational and currently provide health services to Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) residents. Each clinic provides services including a vaccinator, pharmacist, nurse, doctor, midwife, and a TB section. There is also a mobile health clinic that visits villages to provide health services. The mobile clinics mainly provide health services against seasonal diseases. The mobile clinics mainly serve residents where there is no CHC or BHC.

According to locals, health services are quite poor in the district and these clinics only provide such health services as primary healthcare, minor illness treatment, minor operations, and vaccinations.

WATER AND SANITATION

Generally, the water and sanitation system is very poor in this district. The district center's residents primarily rely on Hari Rod River water and some well water. Villagers who live in mountainous areas use fountains for drinking. Water available through canals and karizes becomes less available during the spring and summer, which is generally drought season.

Ten percent of the Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) population has access to pipeline water, twenty percent rely on well water, thirty percent rely on water supplied by karizes, twenty percent use the water from natural fountains, and the remaining twenty percent of the population relies on rainwater collected in underground reservoirs and pots, as well as some river water. They transport water from these sources using livestock.¹²

A lack of standard public bathrooms and properly constructed toilets not only pollutes the environment but also leads to poor personal hygiene and an increase in infectious diseases among residents¹³.

INFRASTRUCTURE

A majority of the central roads in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) are paved and residents can travel by car to most of the villages. The road between Shewij, Ghoqand, Bara Khana, and Badgah is 40-60 kms long and connects these villages to the district center. This road is gravel and is one of the important roads in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh).

Due to seasonal floods, avalanches, and landslides, roads are often destroyed. This slows traffic and can affect trade in the district, preventing residents from bringing their agricultural products to markets and delivering food, goods, and commodities to the district center. Subsequently, this leads to higher prices for goods and commodities as well as increased transportation fares. Destruction of roads also causes problems when transporting patients to health clinics. Many patients die during the slow journey to healthcare centers.

Due to a weak economy and high poverty rate, there is a lack of traditional infrastructure for housing livestock, such as barns. As a result, animals are often kept in quarters inhabited by people, which has a corresponding impact on people's health and hygiene.

Residents throughout the district do not have access to reliable and affordable sources of electricity. Most local households use petrol, gas, and wood stoves to light their homes and cook. This can be very expensive and is not a viable source of heat and light for residents with low income.

In addition, the use of brush and wood for heating and cooking can lead to health issues, including respiratory diseases. It is also damaging to the environment and depletes the food supply needed to raise livestock¹⁴.

¹² Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District Development Plan October 2011 (Local language), pages 6 and 8

¹³ Dr. Abdul Ali Rasooly, Deputy Director of Chaghcharan Public Health Department

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The telecommunications services in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District are more advanced and reliable than telecom systems in other districts. Afghan Wireless Communication Company (AWCC), Roshan, Etisalat, and Mobile Telecommunications Network (MTN) are all available in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District. These companies provide 24-hour coverage in the district center and to most parts of the surrounding villages.

LOCAL GOVERNANCE

Because Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) is the capital of Ghor Province, all of the governmental departments', NGOs', and international organizations' offices are located in this district.

Sayed Anwar Shah Rahmati, a Hazara originally from Bamyan Province, is the Provincial Governor. He is educated and is politically affiliated with the Hezb-e Wahdat (Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan) Party.

OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR		
NO	NAME	POSITION
1.	Sayed Anwar Shah Rahmati	Governor of Ghor Province; from Bamyan Province.
2.	Mohammad Amin Tokhi	Deputy Governor of Ghor Province; from Takhar Province
3.	General Ahmad Fahim Qayem	Chief of Police; from Parwan Province
4.	Amanullah Bik	Criminal Manager of Police HQ; from Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District.
5.	Sebghatullah Akbari	Education Manager of Ghor
6.	Taj Mohammad Zalat	Director of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
7.	Gul Ahmad Haydari	Head of the Prosecutor Department of Ghor; a resident of Kasi Village of Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh)
8.	Gul Ahmad Osmani	Director of Labor and Social Affairs; a resident of Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh)
9.	Abdul Raouf Ghafori	Director of Refugees and Repatriations; from Dawlatyar District
10.	Mowlawi Mohammad Shah Majidi	Director of Haj and Religious Affairs
11.	Mohammad Yousuf Maslakfahm	Head of the Finance Department of Ghor
12.	Kamaluddin Mawdodi	Head of the High Peace Committee
13.	Haydar Khan	Director of Telecommunications and Information Technology
14.	General Noor Mohammad Kakar	Military Prosecutor; from Pasaband District
15.	Haji Mohammad Qasem	Director of the Environment Department; from Tiwara District
16.	Amir Jan	Head of Ghor Airport
17.	Mahboob Akbari	Head of the Petroleum and Gas Department

¹⁴ Mr. Mohammad naim, Admin Manager, Chaghcharan Environment Protection Department

18.	Mohammad Aref Qazi Zada	Acting Mayor
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PARLIAMENTARY MEMBERS

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

There are no members of the Provincial Council from Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh).

WOLESI JIRGA

- Dr. Mohammad Ibrahim Malikzada: the son of Abdul Rahman; born in 1966 in Ghor Province. Speaks Dari and Pashto. Graduated from the Dawlat High School in Ghor Province in 1988. A former military commander.
- Alhaj Karam-u-din Reza Zada: the son of Mullah Fazul Haq; born in 1970 in the city of Chaghcharan in Ghor. Speaks Dari and Pashto. Completed his early education in private religious institutions. Graduated from the Literature Department of the Ghor Teacher Training Institute in 2009.
- Mr. Mohammad Nader Bahr: the son of Sayed Amir; from the Hazara Tribe; born in 1959 in Qalacha Village in Lal Wa Sar Jangal District of Ghor Province.
- Haji Qurban Kohistani: from the Hazara Tribe; the son of Ewaz; was born in 1961 in Lal War SAR Jangal District in Ghor Province.
- Sima Joyanda: from the Allahyar Tribe; daughter of Mirza Gul Aqa Khan; born in 1971 in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District of Ghor Province.

MESHRANO JIRGA (SENATE)

There are no members of the senate from Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh).

NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS (NGOS)

Non-governmental organizations include the District Development Assembly (DDA), the Ulema Council, the village Shura, the women's Shura, provincial youth committee, and other village-level organizations. Shuras engage in conflict resolution and the mediation of tribal and family disputes.

Several local and international NGOs are active in the district. These organizations are providing support to the local government, as well as to development, health, educational, and other public services to district residents.

DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT ASSEMBLY (DDA)

There is a District Development Assembly (DDA) in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District, which is composed of an executive board comprised of a director, a deputy, a secretary, and a treasurer, as well as a consultative board comprised of district men and women. The DDA is comprised of 30 influential members, including 13 women, who are from different villages in the district. The DDA works on three key themes: (1) development, (2) peace and security, and (3) justice and conflict resolution in the district.

The sub-committees of the DDA in the field include project management, procurement, finance, evaluation, and disaster management.

DDA members are directly selected during free elections. According to the rules of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, each Community Development Council (CDC) is allowed to introduce two candidates (one man and one woman). The candidates introduced by the CDC form a cluster and each

district is comprised of ten clusters. Each cluster nominates three of its members to act as representatives at the DDA.

Monthly reports about district development conditions and needs are prepared by the DDA and are submitted to the Department of Rural Rehabilitation and Development. These reports are incorporated into the district development plans and used by government and aid agencies. Another report is composed by the People's Council and is submitted to the community development unit of the Independent Directorate of Local Governance.

For more information, please refer to the list of DDA members in Appendix A.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS (CDCS)

There are 315 Community Development Councils and 11 clusters in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District.

For more information, please refer to the list of CDC members in Appendix A.

POLITICS

While there are no official party headquarters inside Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh), many political parties are active in this district. There are reports that members of various political parties, including the Hezb-e-Jamiat-e-Islami Party, the Hezb-e Wahdat (Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan) Party, the Islamic Unity Party of the People of Afghanistan (Hezb-e Wahdat-e Islami-ye Mardum-e Afghanistan), and the Hezb-e-Islami Party, live and work in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District. However, due to security concerns, they are reluctant to make their identities or party affiliations known.

Most government officials in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) are affiliated with different political parties.

Following the overthrow of the government by the Mujahedeen, different political and Jihadi parties were established in Afghanistan. Many of these parties are alive and have their supporters in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District. More recently, Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) has also witnessed the establishment of new parties, formed under the mantle of Shuras and civil society organizations. These new entities and structures have replaced more traditional parties and are working to achieve their political goals and objectives.

OTHER KEY ACTORS

Generally, tribal leaders and tribal elders are influential figures at the district level and local officials rely on them mainly to resolve conflicts. Influential tribal leaders include:

Tajik Tribal Elders:

- Commander Ahmad Khan Murghabi, Tajik, Jamiat Party
- Mohammad Hasan Khadem Murghabi, Tajik, Jamiat Party
- Commander Ahmad Khan Shewij Yarfolad, Tajik, Jamiat Party
- Abdul Rahman Pir, Allah Yar, Tajik, Islami Party

QUICK FACTS

Political Movements:

- Hezb-e-Jamiat-e-Islami
- Hezb-e Wahdat (Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan)
- Islamic Unity Party of the People of Afghanistan (Hezb-e Wahdat-e Islami-ye Mardum-e Afghanistan)
- Hezb-e-Islami

Provincial Governor:

Mr. Sayed Anwar Shah Rahmati

Members of Parliament:

- Wolesi Jirga:
 - Dr. Mohammad Ibrahim Malikzada
 - Alhaj Karam-u-din Reza Zada
 - Mr. Mohammad Nader Bahr
 - Haji Qurban Kohistani
 - Ruqia Naiel
 - Sima Joyanda
- Meshrano Jirga:
 - No members
- Provincial Council:
 - No members

- Abdul Hakim Jalali, Allah Yar, Tajik, Islami Party
- Abdul Qayum, Aimaq, Jamiat Party
- Fazlul Ahmad Khan, Tajik, Islami Party
- Haji Kamaluddin Mowdodi, Khodayar, Aimaq, Islami Party
- Fazlulhaq Najat, Aimaq, Islami Party
- Mirza Ebrahim, Aimaq
- General Ahmad Khan, Aimaq, Jonbish Mili Party
- Haji Mohammad Shah Majidi, Aimaq, Jamiat Party
- Ghulam Ghos Yaqubi, Aimaq
- Haji Mohammad, Hazara, Wahdat Mili Party
- Haji Esmaeil Moharer, Aimaq, Islami Party
- Abdul Khair Hakimi, Tajik, Islami Party
- Mohammad Khan Bik, Tajik, Harakat Party
- Nadir Khan, Tajik

Pashtun Tribal Elders:

- Keramuddin Rezazada, Zai Raza, Jamiat Party
- Haji Abdul Rahman, Zai Raza, Jamiat Party
- Haji Gul Hazrat Samim, Wardak

For more information about community elders, please see Appendix B

PRIMARY POLITICAL PARTIES

Jamiat-e Islami (Islamic Society of Afghanistan): Led by Burhanuddin Rabbani, this is predominately a Tajik political party which was active in the anti-Soviet jihad and a major political player in the Northern Alliance. At least two of Ghor's district heads are members of Jamiat-e Islami, including the head of the capital district of Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh).

Hezb-e Wahdat (Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan): Hazara's umbrella organization led by Mohammad Karim Khalili.

Islamic Unity Party of the People of Afghanistan (Hezb-e Wahdat-e Islami-ye Mardum-e Afghanistan): Led by Mohammad Mohaqeq, The Islamic Unity Party of the People of Afghanistan, like Khalili's party, is an offshoot of the original Wahdat entity formed from the merger of Iran-based Shi'a Jihadi groups.

GENDER

Women work beside men in governmental and non-governmental organizations and district Shuras.

Girls can go to schools in the district center and some other villages close to the district center. However, girls are unable to access schools in Showich, Bare Khana, Ghorqand, Morghab, Ghalmin, and Zartalai villages due to the presence of anti-government elements and other security concerns.

There are civil society organizations and social groups representing the rights of women in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District, and women refer to the court system to resolve their problems. Women also have access to services provided by the Department of Women's Affairs, the Voice of Women Foundation, or the Women's Safe Home, all of which are located in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh).

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

UN ACTIVITIES IN CHAGHCHARAN (FEROZ KOH)	
ORGANIZATION	PROJECT
UNICEF	Dug out the water wells in schools and health centers, and also conducting vaccination campaigns, efforts to improve health services to the public.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	
ORGANIZATION	PROJECT
CHA (Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance)	Works in education, infrastructure, agriculture, and health sections in insecure areas, and provides emergency aid to war victims and disasters, as well as services to develop rural and urban livelihoods.
ACTD (Afghanistan Center for Training and Development)	This organization is working on the development of civil societies of Afghanistan and health care services, and works in six provinces of Afghanistan including Ghor Province, and is implementing the BPHS program.
Veterinary (Agency for Holland Committee)	Veterinary started its work in Ghor Province in 1995. It works in 10 districts in Ghor Province on: animal treatment, food distribution to livestock owners, vaccination programs, distribution of veterinary material to livestock owners, distribution of improved seeds to farmers, vocational trainings, establishment of clinics at the village level, training for women on animal health care, support for governmental health campaigns, and distribution of animal milking material to district women.
Afghan Jaika	This organization is working on six-month vocational training courses including: computer training, agriculture, heather making, tailoring, and wiring. It serves 360 students each year, 50% of which are woman.
Stars	This organization is working on the development of teachers' capacity and skills, agriculture, and livestock in Ghor Province.
WHO	WHO works in different areas, especially the health section to end polio, feed the children, and help victims of disaster.
Jam Pharma	Jam Pharma is the first local company that imports medicine from international companies.
ARRA	ARRA gets its funding from UNHCR, and has worked about 15 years in Ghor Province on displaced refugees. It is surveying those people who are displaced due to internal wars, presence of insurgents, and insecurity problems.
UNESCO	This organization had the literacy program in Ghor Province, which ended in July of 2013.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	
ORGANIZATION	PROJECT
WV	World Vision international organization started its activity in 2004 in Afghanistan, and works in the western provinces of Afghanistan. It works in the areas of education, health, and agriculture.
MADIRA	This organization is working in the two districts of Tiwara and Pasaband of Ghor Province. It is implementing the national solidarity program of the MRRD with Shuras.
GB Global Partner	Key activities of the GB organization in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting computer and English language courses for school students. • Providing various trainings for those people who never attended any training. • Training deaf children in sign language. • Distributing food and non-food items to poor people.
GPE (Global Participation for Education)	From 2013-2015, GPE is one of the implementing partners for the Ministry of Education. It is working under the education department to support and encourage people about education.
VOW (Voice of Women)	This organization runs a free counseling center, runs a shelter and safe house for at-risk women, reduces the violence against women, builds the capacity of women in the community, and raises the role of women in decision making in government activities.

MEDIA

There are two private radio stations (Edalat and Sarhad), local television stations, and four magazines available in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District. Television and radio media are most readily accessible in villages near the district center.

SECURITY

Afghan National Security Forces, including the Afghan National Army, the Afghan National Police, and the Afghan Public Protection Force, are operating in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District. They are responsible for ensuring security of the district. They are based in the district center and are present at checkpoints within key areas of the district.

Locals have recently witnessed different tribal conflicts inside the district, causing an overall destabilization of the district. They believe that old tribal conflicts are the main destabilizing factor in this district, in addition to the cultivation of poppy and the activity of insurgents. Active tribal conflicts in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) include:

- Conflict between Zai Reza and Mehri tribes: in conflict with each other since the Mujahedeen era.
- Conflict between Zai Reza and Taimani tribes: in conflict with each other since Mujahedeen era.

Media:

Radio Stations:

- Edalat Radio
- Sarhad Radio

Television:

RTA

- Conflict between Sultanyar and Murghabi tribes: in conflict with each other for the past four years. The conflict commenced after the murder of a Sultanyar judge by the Murghabi tribe.¹⁵

The Taliban have their own shadow government and military forces present in Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District. Key Taliban members include the following individuals:

- Mollah Ahmad Shah, a Taliban commander originally from Charsada District of Ghor Province and the Taliban's shadow Deputy Provincial Governor.
- Mollah Abdul Hadi, a key Taliban commander and the Taliban's shadow Police Commander

Lack of employment opportunities for young people, low public income, a weak economy, inefficient local governance, administrative corruption, lack of public access to state services, weak officials, poppy cultivation in the areas under Taliban control (in the villages of Morghab, Ahangaran, and Shovich), drug trafficking, and tribal tensions are all factors contributing to instability in the district.

¹⁵ Provincial Security Department

APPENDIX A: DDA LISTS

DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT ASSEMBLY – CHAGHCHARAN (FEROZ KOH)			
NO.	NAME	POSITION	VILLAGE
1	Mullah Besmellah	Head of DDA	Sangbar
2	Mohammad Saleh	Deputy Head of DDA	Talah
3	Haji Sultan Mohammad	Secretary	Dahan Kasi
4	Din Mohammad	Cashier	Waz Murghab
5	Mohammad Gul	Member	Jandak Murghab
6	Muwlawi Ghulam Sarwar	Member	Esfarman
7	Ghusuddin	Member	Sartagab Ghalmain
8	Muwlawi Abdul Qader	Member	Zertalay
9	Muwlawi Abdul Ghafoor	Member	Sang Safid
10	Haji Mullah Mohammad	Member	Tangi Zard
11	Haji Abdul Qayum	Member	Shah Bidak
12	Mullah Mohammad	Member	Darban Safid
13	Mullah Gul Alam	Member	Dara Asia
14	Mulawi Taj Mohammad	Member	Lakhshak
15	Mullah Ghulam Sakhi	Member	Pala
16	Mohammad Neman	Member	Tirdawan
17	Mir Ahmad	Member	Deh Ab
18	Ghulam Shah	Member	Jermto
19	Saleh Mohammad	Member	Qashalq Sokhta
20	Sharafuddin	Member	Nahor Shawij
21	Abdulhadi	Member	Akhtakhana Sufia
22	Abdul Salam	Member	Ahangran Sufia
23	Ms. Mah Laqa	Member	Bara Khana
24	Ms. Shah Zar	Member	Khak Badak
25	Ms. Halima	Member	Sad Siah
26	Ms. Gulistan	Member	Sad Siah
27	Ms. Mirnegar	Member	Khaja Ghar
28	Ms. Mahboba	Member	Tirdawan
29	Ms. Zabida	Member	Deh Sorkh Ulya
30	Ms. Samansa Rahimi	Member	Zaminjai Ghalmain
31	Ms. Mina	Member	Lashkar Rah
32	Ms. Mah Bibi	Member	Kon Labash
33	Ms. Khadija	Member	Wajan Murghab

APPENDIX B: MAPS

Figure I – Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District Map in Ghor Province

Source: World Food Program

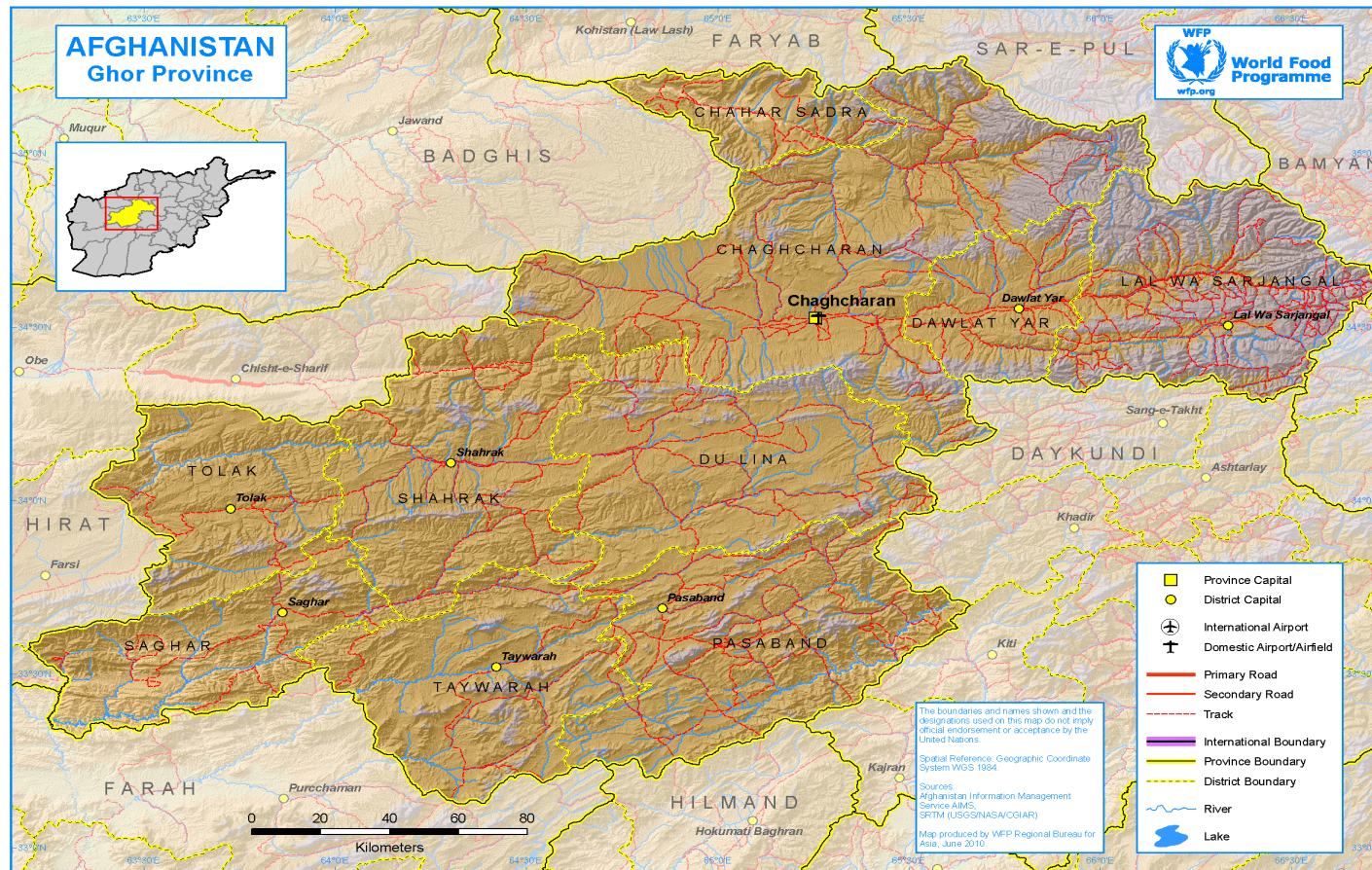


Figure 2 – Chaghcharan (Feroz Koh) District Ethnic Groups

Source: <http://www.nps.edu/programs/ccs/Ghor/Ghor.html>

